

## TWO JOURNEYS.

"I go on a journey far away."  
He said—and he stopped and kissed me then—  
"Over the ocean for many a day—  
Good-bye," and his mouth had set.  
But when I answered my husband's kiss;  
"I could not carry away," he said,  
"I have no more to say than this."  
And so it was by my husband's side,  
I go on a journey, sweet, to say;  
Over the ocean the winter gale—  
Good-bye, good-bye, I say?"  
A man, as I stood for the parting kiss;  
"I said, as I stood for the parting kiss;  
He cannot carry, as told me,  
There is never a soul so fair as this."

But many a month and many a year—  
Have done since my saying good-bye,  
With many a tear, and much to me here?  
Has he found the region of perfect day?

Over the ocean he went and came;

Over the river, and dangers there;

On, paid his homeward way;

Show me the region so wondrous fair—  
—argus.

## Dead Leaves and Their Uses.

We very naturally admire growing leaves, and cannot help a feeling of sadness when they wither and fall. A casual look at the fallen leaves gives us the idea that their work is done, and that therefore He who has wonderfully created them permitted them to decay. But those who give more than a passing look find that, though their ornamental life is over, their useful life is but beginning. You pause perhaps, and for a moment wonder how dead leaves are utilized; but so many varieties are used that it would be impossible to name them all, so we will only refer to the most common. Of these it is only fair to state that many of them are not allowed to wither on the tree, the reason being to preserve a larger amount of the essence of the leaf. For example, the leaves of the tea plant are allowed to grow to a certain stage, and are then gathered and dried quickly in the sun. Of course, everyone knows that the death of a leaf is usually caused by the drying up of the sap, on which it depends for nourishment; so that by forcing the leaves to die more quickly than they naturally would, many of the taste or essence of the leaf is retained. And so dead tea leaves are used to provide Dr. Johnson's favorite beverage, "tea." Of course, there are many different kinds of tea, but they are not under our consideration; sufficient it is if you consider that that most common of all commodities is simply dried leaves.

Next, let us take tobacco, as being an article in common use. This plant is native of America, and is supposed to have been first brought to England by Sir Walter Raleigh, who taught his countrymen to smoke it. "The leaves only are used, and great care is taken in its cultivation to bring them to perfection, and the drying and preparing for use is a long and difficult process; but no one looking at a cigar or the usual tobacco can for a moment doubt its being anything but dead leaves.

It would be a long and difficult task to name all the dead leaves which are used by herbologists and doctors; but many of the more simple kinds of the class of leaves known as herbs are of great use in cookery, such as Thyme, Mint, Sage, etc.

Having mentioned these individual leaves, you will probably say there are very few; not a large enough part of the leaf to be used, and granting them to be a hundredth part, what becomes of the ninety-nine thousand? Many leaves are allowed to drop off the trees and decay to a certain extent, and are then used for manure to enrich the ground, that it may bring forth more leaves, which all in their turn will also decay. Then again, it is an acknowledged fact that the decayed vegetation of centuries—in fact, whole forests which have died and been rotted—go to form a large proportion of our coal.

## How a Quaker Punished a Thief.

A Quaker, having been disturbed by footfalls around his dwelling one night, arose from his bed and "cautiously opened the back door to reconnoiter. Close by was an out-house, and under it a cellar, near a window of which was a man busily engaged in receiving the contents of his pork barrel from another in the cellar."

The Quaker approached, and the man on the out-side said, "He stopped up to the cedar window and received the pork from the thief within, who, after a little time, asked his suspended accomplice in a whisper,

"Should we take it all?" The owner of the pork said, "No."

"Very well, it will," and the thief passed up the balance through the window and then came up himself, having his companion when, instead of grasping his companion in crime, he confronted the Quaker.

Both were astonished, for the thief proved to be a mere neighbor, of whom none would have suspected such conduct. He pleaded for mercy, begged him not to prosecute, spoke of the necessities of poverty, and promised faithfully not to steal again.

"If thou hadst asked me for meat, it would have been given thee; I pity thy poverty and thy weakness, and esteem thy family. Thou art forewarned."

The Quaker was greatly rejoiced, and was about to depart, when the Quaker said,

"Take the pork, neighbor."

"No, no," said the thief, "I don't want the pork."

"Thy necessity was so great that it led thee to steal. One-half of the pork thou must take with thee."

The thief insisted that he could never eat a morsel of it. The thought of the crime would make it choke him. He begged the privilege of letting it alone. But the Quaker was inflexible, and dismissed the man with a bag, put half the pork therein and laying it upon his back, sent him home with it.

He met his neighbor daily for several years afterward, their families visited together, but the master was kept a secret, and though in after years the circumstance was mentioned, the name of the delinquent was never made known. The punishment was severe and effectual. It probably was his first—it certainly was his last—attempt to steal.

Had the man been arranged before a court of justice and imprisoned for the petty theft, how different might have been the result. His family disgraced, their peace destroyed, the man's character ruined and his spirit broken.

## Weather Wisdom.

When you wish to know what the weather is to be, go out and select the smallest cloud you see. Keep your eye upon it, and if it decreases and disappears it shows a state of the air which is sure to be followed by fine weather; but if it increases in size, take your great coat with you if you are going from home, for falling weather is not far off. The reason is this: When the air is becoming charged with electricity you will see every cloud attracting all lesser ones toward it, until it gathers into a shower; and on the contrary, when the fluid is passing off, or diffusing itself, then a large cloud will be seen breaking into pieces and dissolving.

Said an aged politician and editor to me, "I like to read off-hand social sermons, because they seem to be confessions. Now let me make a confession to you! I don't believe, although I have a large summer house at the most successful resort in the country, that the dissipations and broken habits of the long season do me any good or give me any rest, or that I am as well measured for length of days in the idle summer as in the severe winter. And can you tell me, then Diogenes of Broadway? why everybody is visiting the summer resorts and at such an increase of board bills and family expenses?"

"It is the rise of wealth," said I, "resulting from the development and speculation in a new country, giving an unrest to young and old; and making the most forward our leaders whether in physics or morals. None dare be independent where all can be rich. When George the Fourth was ruling a successful empire that had just finished thirty years of war and was trading with the whole world, Beau Brummel, who could starch his collar and necktie the neatest, was the next man to the King, though a sot and a parasite, and the King, without a single virtue, was called the 'first gentleman of Europe'."

"Alas!" said the political sage,

"there is too much wealth, I fear, to make us happy as we have been. I am sure people are not as happy as in the day of small incomes and quiet habits."

I know most of the social equals of the moderately rich men of forty years ago. Rufus King was then my neighbor at Albany, considered the richest man north of New York, and the leading banker. He told me that it cost him only \$3,000 a year for his whole expenses, and many other men lived as well in Albany. Yet his expenses would now not pay his children's school bills. When I was Collector of the Port of Albany, at a salary of \$4 a day, I felt as if I had got a lift that would make me independent, and when I saved \$750 a year I felt that I was on the high road to success. No man in those days had \$1,000,000, or, if he had, was bound to have vast responsibilities to his country and his God. Now \$1,000,000 excites no admiration, but I don't think it brings much compensation. It only goads the man to push on for more. His relations to his facilities and his health are worse. His career is really more contracted, because he is sitting down by the million like a pinhead, unable to get away from its influence upon his mentality."—*New York Tribune*.

What Ailed Mrs. Oldsay's Chicken.

At a school examination in Winona-ter county, N. Y., the following question was presented by a youthful competitor:

"A rooster is a male hen, whose business it is to help shield one of the cockatoos from the wind and sun; and granting them to be a hundredth part, what becomes of the ninety-nine thousand? Many leaves are allowed to drop off the trees and decay to a certain extent, and are then used for manure to enrich the ground, that it may bring forth more leaves, which all in their turn will also decay. Then again, it is an acknowledged fact that the decayed vegetation of centuries—in fact, whole forests which have died and been rotted—go to form a large proportion of our coal."

My mother, an old maid, whose business it is to help shield one of the cockatoos from the wind and sun; and granting them to be a hundredth part, what becomes of the ninety-nine thousand? Many leaves are allowed to drop off the trees and decay to a certain extent, and are then used for manure to enrich the ground, that it may bring forth more leaves, which all in their turn will also decay. Then again, it is an acknowledged fact that the decayed vegetation of centuries—in fact, whole forests which have died and been rotted—go to form a large proportion of our coal."

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